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THE BAPTIST

# Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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## WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

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## SBC missionaries brace for El Nino effects

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Severe disruptions to normal weather patterns of countries around the Pacific Ocean threaten to add to the millions who are facing famine conditions this year.

The Southern Baptist International Mission Board (IMB) is preparing contingency plans for the expected effects of El Nino, the Pacific warming of water off the western coast of South America which causes dramatic shifts in weather patterns.

"If this thing is anything like the predictions, in many areas there will be additional needs for hunger relief," reported Bill Cashion, human needs consultant with the IMB.

In Honduras, a drought has virtually eliminated any hope of a harvest for many farmers. Requests for hunger funds are being processed to assist 27 churches in helping 436 families with beans and corn for food as well as seeds for planting.

Oct. 12 will be observed as World Hunger Day in Southern Baptist churches around the world (see *Guest Opinion* on page two of this issue).

IMB missionaries Tim and Dorcas Patterson have traveled this road before.

During a drought in 1994, hunger funds were used by 12 churches to build silos and loan seed to their members. The members were to pay back the seed plus 10% more. This harvest was kept in storage silos for future needs.

The success of this previous effort rests in the fact that none of those 12 churches are seeking help during this drought.



**SMALL RETURN** — A Honduran farm family attempts with limited success to plant corn during drought conditions in the central American country. Additional severe conditions are expected as the unpredictable El Nino weather system moves across that area of the globe. (BP photo by Warren Johnson)

On the island of New Guinea, 250 persons are reported to have died due to starvation and cholera since mid-August, according to wire services.

Also, thick clouds of smoke from brush fires make breathing difficult in New Guinea and other Pacific nations including Malaysia, Singapore, and the Southern Philippines.

Massive brush fires have also been reported in Australia. In Indonesia, aid officials say up to one million people are in danger of famine due to El Nino.

While forecasts as to El Nino's consequences vary, most forecasters concur that moderate El Nino conditions will persist through the Summer of 1998.

Some predictors expect this El Nino to be considerably worse than those in years past. From famine to flooding, this upheaval in global weather patterns promises to thrust many of the world's poor into increasingly desperate need.

"The effects already being felt from El Nino coupled with

the terrible famine in North Korea could easily result in a need for at least two to three million dollars in additional hunger funds for Southern Baptists respond to these catastrophes," Cashion said.

Hunger ministries sponsored by Southern Baptists are funded through special gifts to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund.

Gifts to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund are used 100% for hunger ministry, with none used for administration.

### Surfing single gets easier

Savvy Christian singles can now cyber-surf through the Internet to locate up-to-date information about relationships, career choices, finances, entertainment, and current events.

Christian Single magazine, a current events periodical that address lifestyle issues of single adults from a positive, evangelical Christian perspective, recently added its presence to the World Wide Web.

The website address for Christian Single Online is: <http://www.christiansingle.com>

The website offers the current month's feature stories and articles as well as the magazine's best archived articles; it provides a ministry source for single adults and their leaders; it offers entertainment/artist profiles and music, book and movie reviews; and it furnishes dates and locations for single adult events taking place throughout the country.

The magazine is produced by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Discipleship and Family Magazine Department.

### Looking back

#### 10 years ago

Mississippi College honors one of its top ambassadors by naming the auditorium in Nelson Hall, the main Administration building on campus, the Chester E. Swor Auditorium, providing a permanent tribute to the nationally-recognized author and religious counselor.

#### 20 years ago

A Campers on Mission statewide organization is formed at a meeting at Lake Okatibee near Meridian. The group of 50 campers elects Sid Cruthirds of Biloxi as president; Ralph Henson of Meridian as vice-president; and John Maddox of Biloxi as secretary-treasurer.

#### 50 years ago

A new church with 25 charter members is organized in the Leavell Woods section of suburban Jackson. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Hitchins donate a lot and timber for the new church. One building, which seats 75, has been completed and work is now being done on a larger unit.



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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# A good sign for the future

If imitation is indeed the sincerest form of flattery, Mississippi Baptist young people have every reason to blush over the Oct. 6 announcement that the state's Department of Human Services (DHS) will inaugurate a massive multimedia campaign called "Just Wait" to promote sexual abstinence among Mississippi's teenagers.

With great fanfare before a rapt news media audience at the Jackson press conference, DHS Executive Director Don Taylor rolled out the top-quality television commercials and displayed the sophisticated print advertisements that the department hopes will steer young people away from casual sex in the state with the highest teen pregnancy rate in the country.

Better late than never. With all due respect for the DHS abstinence effort, Mississippi Baptists can truthfully say we've already been there, done that, and — yes — bought the T-shirt. Lots of T-shirts.

Anyone remember "True Love Waits?"

The hugely successful Baptist Sunday School Board program, likely the first and still the largest-ever effort to encourage sexual abstinence as a way of life for young people, was adopted by the young people in virtually every Mississippi Baptist church.

The most obvious indications of the program's success, at least by our obsessively iconographic cultural standards, were the incredible number of T-shirts sporting "TLW" logos — and the fact that the program itself quickly became identified simply by its initials.

Thousands upon thousands of

Mississippi Baptist young people have made the pledge to remain sexually pure until marriage, and the vast majority of those who took the pledge appear to be following through in their daily lives and personal relationships.

Mississippi Baptist young people are making a difference, so much so that state government has decided that it might be a good idea to jump on this train even if it has already left the station.

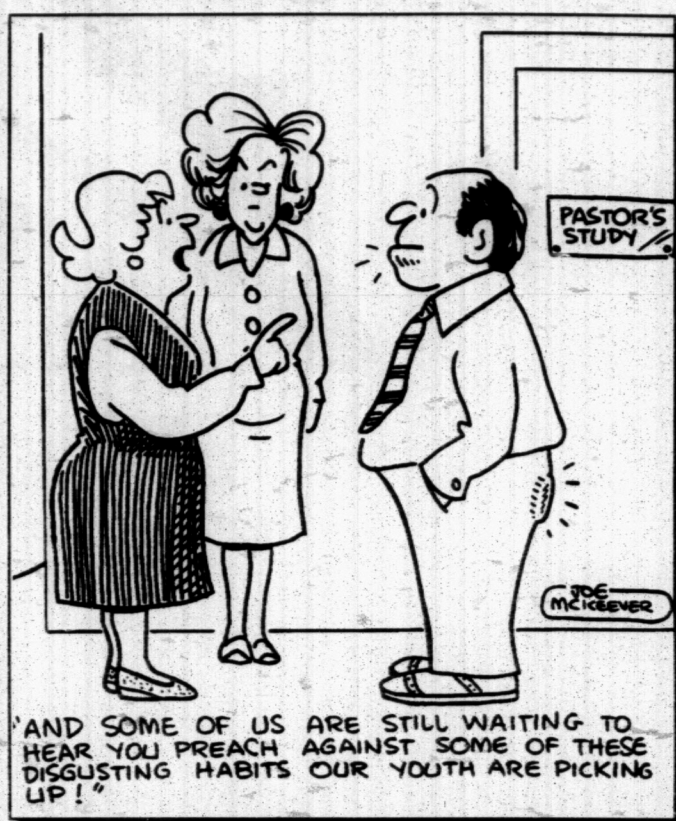
Like the proud parents of an overachieving child, Mississippi Baptists can take pride in the Heaven-high goals of the young people in our churches — but we're accustomed to that, aren't we?

These are young people who consistently fill the 10,000-seat Mississippi Coliseum to overflowing each year for Mississippi Baptist Youth Night, so much so that organizers can schedule twin services with the confidence that both will be well-attended.

These are young people who rock the cavernous A.E. Wood Coliseum on the campus of Mississippi College in Clinton each December with a standing-room-only crowd for the Mississippi Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference.

These are young people who are causing Baptist Student Unions to burst at the seams on one campus after another across Mississippi.

Those are young people who unashamedly take their Bibles wherever they go, and walk the aisles of our churches to hold the trembling hands of nervous peers as they make public professions of



faith in Christ.

In a culture that devalues young people from the moment they are conceived, they have made a stand for what's right in spite of the enormous opposition they encounter.

In a culture that openly encourages them to sample any perversion they choose, they have decided instead to choose Jesus.

These are young people in whom we can place our future. Now, isn't that a comforting thought?

## GUEST OPINION:



### It's time to feed the hungry

By Elizabeth K. Holmes, consultant  
Miss. Baptist Christian Action Comm.

Harvest festivals, Thanksgiving feasts, Christmas dinners — these words conjure up smells and images of colorful vegetables in beautiful array, cornbread dressing and homemade bread in the oven, a juicy turkey ready to be carved, and, best of all, tantalizing cookies, candies, and cakes on display.

It's that time of year when we focus on food. We think more about food — plan more, cook more, eat more, gain more weight, and complain more — than at any other time of the year.

It's also the time of year when, either because of guilt over our own abundance and some fleeting sense of the lack of others — or because of a genuine concern for the needs of others aroused by heightened awareness during the season of giving — we pile canned goods and fruit into baskets and deliver it to the poor, widowed, and homebound.

We feel a sense of satisfaction over having done something for those who might have experienced hunger on Christmas were it not for our gifts. Or do we?

Does this frustrate you as it does me? When I think of the starving masses of people around the world, of the homeless and hungry dying in filth and squalor in the streets of cities and in the isolation of rural villages, I know that my Thanksgiving or Christmas gift of fruit and canned goods has done little good except to slightly salve my own conscience.

Perhaps it's time for us to be confronted with the facts about hunger and with the need to make hunger giving a continuous part of our Christian lifestyle. Of the 5.5 billion world population, about two billion people are in some way malnourished.

Worldwide, more than 1.3 billion people live on the equivalent of less than one dollar per day.

In 1990, 30 million people in the United States lacked enough to eat each month — 12% of the total population. Researchers estimated in 1993 that 12 million U.S. children under age 18 were hungry.

Malnutrition breaks down the immune system and makes all people, but especially children, more vulnerable not only to disease but more likely to suffer blindness, deafness, bone development problems, and mental deficiencies. The facts are grim and very disturbing.

Even more disturbing to me is the realization that the world has the ability in wealth and technology to address the problems of hunger, and yet we don't.

According to a 1994 report on global hunger released by the Bread for the World Institute, "The earth's inhabitants possess the ability but lack the will to end

massive hunger."

Even though there has been a decline in world hunger overall, the report further indicated that "there is still a wide gap between humanity's professed moral values and our collective action."

We have the ability but lack the will. For Christians around the world that statement should be a wake up call.

Sunday, October 12, is World Hunger Day throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. It's the perfect time to alert all of our churches to the serious needs related to hunger and poverty worldwide.

It's also a great opportunity to inform Baptists that when they give money through their churches designated for the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund, 100% of their gift goes to alleviate hunger — 80% to the International Mission Board for overseas hunger projects and 20% to the North American Mission Board for state-side hunger projects.

We should also point out that statistics prove that when world hunger giving increases, giving to other Southern Baptist causes has also gone up!

We have three choices. One is to do nothing. Another is to bring a very focused emphasis to world hunger needs in church this coming Sunday and offer the opportunity to give to world hunger causes — and that would be commendable.

However, more might be accomplished by using World Hunger Day to challenge church members to make hunger awareness and giving a regular part of their offerings for the work of the kingdom.

Isn't it time?

OBSERVE  
**WORLD HUNGER DAY**  
OCTOBER 12, 1997



# Groups plan gatherings around MBC meeting

A number of groups associated with Mississippi Baptists have announced plans to gather during the 1997 annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, scheduled for Oct. 28-29 at First Church, Jackson. Among the groups are:

## Monday, Oct. 27

**Miss. Baptist Ministers' Wives Conference**, 1-4:30 p.m. First Church, Jackson, rooms 501-524. For more information, contact Ann Martin at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

**Lay Missions Conference**, special sessions 1:30 p.m.

**General session** 3 p.m. Banquet 5 p.m. For more information, contact Brotherhood Dept. at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

**Educational Missions Fellowship**, 1:30 p.m. First Church, Jackson.

## Tuesday, Oct. 28

**Annuitant's Breakfast Fellowship**, 7 a.m. First Church, Jackson (Fellowship Hall East). For more information, contact Robin Nichols at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

**Mid-America Seminary**

**Alumni Association**, 11:45 a.m. Coliseum Ramada Inn, Jackson. Michael Spradlin, speaker. Buffet cost is \$14. For more information, contact Ken Dawson at (601) 234-2710.

**Southern Seminary Alumni Luncheon**, immediately following convention morning session. Baptist Building Sky Room. James Sullivan and Jim Yates, speakers. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door. For more information, contact Paul Smith at (601) 565-2502.

**William Carey College Alumni Association**, immediately following convention evening session. Baptist Building Chapel. For more information, contact Donna Wheeler at (601) 582-6107 or stop by Carey booth at convention.

Wayne Marshall and at Blue Mountain booth at convention. For more information, contact Marshall at (601) 895-1900.

**Mississippi College School of Nursing "Health Awareness '97"** First Church, Jackson.

## Wednesday, Oct. 29

**Clarke College Alumni and Friends Continental Breakfast**, 7 a.m. First Church, Jackson (Fellowship Hall East). For more information, contact James Griffith at (601) 683-9970.

**Bivocational Ministers Breakfast Fellowship**, 7-8:15 a.m. Baptist Building Chapel. No cost. For more information, contact Matt Buckles at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.



## THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

## Mississippi Baptist Convention 162nd Annual Session

First Church, Jackson — October 28-29, 1997

### Tuesday morning, Oct. 28, Session 1

8:30	Prelude	Organist/Pianist, FBC, Jackson
8:35	Sounding of the Gavel	Jimmy Porter
8:40	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, McComb
8:50	Congregational Praise	Mark Moore
	Hear the Word of the Lord	Tim Williams
	Prayer	Archie Moore
9:00	Organization of the Convention	
	Recognition and Seating of Messengers	Jimmy Porter
	Recognition of Special Guests & Correspondence	Jimmy Porter
	Report of Committee on Order of Business	Franklin Denham
	Tellers and Credentials Committees	Jimmy Porter
	Welcome	FBC, Jackson
9:10	Bible Treasure: The Example of Suffering	Stephen Olford
9:35	Report of Committee on Committees	Larry Garner
9:40	Presentation of Resolutions	
9:50	Congregational Praise	Mark Moore
9:55	Following Christ in the Classroom	Rebecca Grace
10:00	Election of President	Jimmy Porter
10:20	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, McComb
10:25	President's Address	Jimmy Porter
10:55	Second Ballot for President (if needed)	
11:00	Convention Board Report	Kermit McGregor
11:10	Congregational & Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir, FBC, McComb
		Jerry Young
11:15	Message	Ron Reeves
11:40	Benediction	

### Tuesday afternoon, Session 2

1:30	Prelude	Sanctuary Choir/Orchestra
		Broadmoor, Jackson
1:40	Sounding of the Gavel	David Raddin
	Congregational Praise	Mike Harland
	Hear the Word of the Lord	John Sapp
	John 13:1-7	
	Prayer	O.D. Martin
1:50	Following Christ on Campus	Melissa Courtney
1:55	Bible Treasure: The Example of Serving	Stephen Olford
2:20	Christian Action Commission Report	Paul Jones
2:30	Business Session	Jimmy Porter
	Presentation of 1998 Budget	Bobby Kirk
	Election of Convention Officers	
	Presentation of Resolutions	
	Miscellaneous Business	
3:00	Congregational Praise	Mike Harland
3:05	Baptist Children's Village Report	Ronny Robinson
3:15	Business Session	Jimmy Porter
	Election of Convention Officers	
	Report of Constitution and Bylaws Committee	
	Miscellaneous Business	
3:50	Congregational Praise	Mike Harland
3:55	Report of Board of Ministerial Education	David Millican
4:00	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir
		Broadmoor, Jackson
4:15	Convention Sermon	Jim Futral
4:45	Benediction	Millard Purl

Continued on Page 4

**Blue Mountain College Ministerial Alumnae Dinner**, 5:15 p.m. Broadmoor Church, Jackson. Lowell Johnson, speaker. Don Chandler, music. Tickets are \$8 per person from

## Edwards resigns WCC; successor search begins

James W. Edwards resigned Oct. 6 from his positions of chancellor and chief executive officer of William Carey College (WCC) in Hattiesburg in the aftermath of an investigation that concluded he "falsely represented" information on a 1994 federal grant application.

The Baptist-affiliated school's board of trustees immediately appointed Larry Kennedy, WCC vice-president and dean of the Cooper School of Missions and Biblical Studies, to serve as chief executive officer.

Kennedy had been serving as interim president since the June departure of Rory Lee, who left to accept the president's post at Baptist-affiliated Louisiana College in Pineville.

The trustees also elevated Cloyd Ezell, dean of the School of Arts, Humanities, and Sciences, to the positions of vice-president for academic affairs and chief operating officer.

Trustees announced on Sept. 25 they had agreed to a \$345,666 settlement with the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) in connection with a two-year federal investigation of a 1994 Strengthening Institutions Program grant application submitted by Edwards on behalf of the school.

Brad Pigott, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi who handled settlement negotiations for the federal government, said in a Sept. 26 press release that the investigation revealed Edwards "falsely represented" that:

◆ WCC academic programs

and services were annually assessed and developed by a long-range planning committee, which in turn created a long-range strategic plan updated annually with input from all segments of the college community.

◆ governance of the college included a management and student information task force made up of specified members.

◆ a faculty development committee with named members had developed a strategy for faculty development on WCC campuses.

"The government's investigation revealed that all such representations were false, in that no such committees or task forces in fact existed," Pigott said.

Ben Carlisle, chairman of the WCC board of trustees and pastor of Arlington Heights Church in Pascagoula, said Oct. 6 that an independent investigation ordered some time earlier by the trustees had concluded the accusations were overstated and in fact were a "tempest in a teapot."

"The press release from the U.S. Attorney's office on Sept. 26 revealed publicly the seriousness of the situation at WCC. This news has been both disturbing and disruptive."

"The trustees want to thank each of you for your prayers, patience, and understanding as we have dealt with this very difficult situation," Carlisle said.

Carlisle told The Clarion-Ledger newspaper on Oct. 7 that a search committee to replace Edwards will be appointed, but a timetable is not yet in place.

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Editor's note: The full text of Carlisle's Oct. 6 statement will be published in the Oct. 16 issue of The Baptist Record.



# Scholarship has unusual benefit for student

By Jane Newell, Assoc. Director  
Mississippi Baptist Foundation



Joseph and Kathryn Oliver

In April of this year, I drove to Amory to visit and deliver a thank-you letter to Joseph and Kathryn Oliver. In 1980, the Olivers established a trust fund with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation (MBF) to provide seminary scholarships to qualified students from Mississippi.

For one of the recipients, it turned out to be much more than just a scholarship.

Rana Nettles was the 1986 recipient of the Joseph and Kathryn Oliver Scholarship.

In an effort to show appreciation to the Olivers, Nettles arranged to visit them. Kathryn Oliver introduced Nettles to her associate pastor, Bobby Burt.

After corresponding by mail and phone, a beautiful courtship began. Nettles and Burt married at the Olivers' home church — Cason Church, Nettleton — on December 9, 1987.

The Burts both graduated from Southwestern Seminary. He is now pastor of Calvary Church, Pascagoula.

They have a two-year-old son, John Anders, and a daughter, Katie, born June 13, 1997,

and named for Kathryn Oliver.

Joseph Oliver served as the first Director of Missions (DOM) for Monroe Association, from June 1960-Dec. 1973. He also served as DOM in Panola-Yalobusha and Bolivar Associations.

In August of 1994, Oliver was named "Minister of the Month" by the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal. He helped establish many churches and missions during his years of ministry.

MBF provides semi-annual scholarships to assist Mississippi young men and women who are candidates for a Master's degree program or an Associate's degree program at an accredited seminary affiliated with the

Southern Baptist Convention.

Receipt of a scholarship in one semester does not guarantee the receipt of a scholarship in succeeding semesters.

Final determination of a scholarship is made upon fulfillment of requirements of a seminary scholarship policy, evaluation of evidence given by the student of a genuine conversion experience, a call to Christian ministry, a striving for academic excellence, a potential for service, and an indication of financial need.

Through the years, MBF has provided scholarship aid to many Mississippi students. For the 1997 fall semester, 150 students will receive financial assistance. Because of the

increasing number of applicants, there is an ever-increasing need for funds to assist individuals who will go out to minister in Mississippi and around the world.

A scholarship fund can be established through MBF in honor of an individual or in memory of a loved one.

Whether one wishes to add to an existing scholarship fund or establish a new fund, MBF can help in accomplishing those wishes.

What better blessing than to invest in the lives of others?

For more information, contact MBF at P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601)968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

## Details released for '97 MBC meet

### Registration

Registration for the 1997 Mississippi Baptist Convention at First Church, Jackson, will be on the second floor above the State Street entrance, just outside the Sanctuary. The registration area can be directly accessed from the Skywalk over State Street. For safety reasons, crossing State Street below the Skywalk is strongly discouraged. Pedestrians should cross State Street at the traffic signal located at the intersection of State and Mississippi Streets.

Volunteers from First Church, Jackson, will begin registering messengers at noon on Monday, Oct. 27, and at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 28. Registration will close for the day on both Oct. 27-28 at the beginning of the night sessions. On Oct. 29, registration will be open from 8-10 a.m.

### Telephone access/lost and found

A telephone for outgoing calls will be available on the second floor across from the registration area. Long distance calls require a credit card. Messages may be left for convention attendees by calling (601) 949-1924 during convention sessions. A lost and found booth will also be staffed in this area.

### Preschool care

Preschool-age child care will be available during the 1997 Mississippi Baptist Convention by completing the following process:

1. **Pre-registration is required by deadline of Oct. 22.** To pre-register, contact the First Church, Jackson, preschool ministry during regular business hours at (601) 949-1904.

2. Upon arriving, sign in children and pick up security cards at the preschool ministry entrance on ground level off State Street. The preschool entrance is accessed by using the one way drive-through at the intersection of State and College Streets.

3. Label all belongings. For infants, leave written feeding schedule.

4. Children must arrive no earlier than 20 minutes before each session begins and must be picked up no later than 20 minutes after the close of each session. Children may remain in the preschool area during the convention lunch break on Oct. 28 **if parents provide a snack lunch.**

*Note: A child will be released only to the adult in possession of the security card assigned to that particular child.*

### Parking

Since parking is extremely limited around First Church, Jackson, messengers and guests of the 1997 annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention are encouraged to park at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds. Exit Interstate 55 at High Street, turn left on Jefferson Street, and enter the fairgrounds at the Amite Street entrance. Park beside the "Super Slide" amusement ride.

Shuttle vans will be available to and from First Church, beginning with the first sessions on Monday, Oct. 27 and ending with the final session on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

Those attending the 1997 Mississippi Baptist Convention are cautioned against over-parking on meters and other illegal parking. Improperly parked cars may be towed in severe cases.

### Hotel information

Following are room rates for some of the motels easily accessible to downtown Jackson (prices do not include tax). Please mention that you will be attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention when making reservations.

<b>Cabot Lodge</b> I-55 at County Line Road 120 Dyess Road, Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 957-0757	\$69	flat rate for up to 4 people king-size or 2 double beds
<b>Cabot Lodge—Millsaps</b> State Street at Woodrow Wilson 2375 North State, Jackson (601) 948-8650 1-800-874-4737	\$66 \$70	double beds or king king-size Includes complimentary breakfast
<b>Coliseum Ramada Inn</b> I-55 North—Between Pearl & High St. exits Jackson—(601) 969-2141	\$55	flat rate for up to 4 people king or double beds
<b>Edison Walthall</b> 225 E. Capitol, Jackson (601) 948-6161	\$65 \$75	single double
<b>Hampton Inn &amp; Suites</b> 320 Greymont Avenue, Jackson (601) 352-1700	\$69 \$75	single double Includes complimentary breakfast
<b>Holiday Inn Express Hotel &amp; Suites</b> 310 Greymont Avenue (formerly The Wilson Inn) Jackson—(601) 948-4466	\$60	2 king-size beds (continental breakfast buffet)
<b>Red Roof Inn Coliseum</b> I-55 and High Street (601) 969-5006	\$38.99 \$45.99	(1 person) single 2 full size beds or king-size (second person \$5 in single - \$6 in double)

### Continued from Page 3

#### Tuesday evening, Session 3

6:30	Prelude	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
6:35	Sounding of the Gavel	Jimmy Porter
6:40	Choral Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
7:00	Congregational Praise	Graham Smith
	Hear the Word of the Lord	Congregation
	The Lord's Prayer	Congregation
7:10	Following Christ in the Workplace	Ronnie Musgrove
7:15	Final Presentation of Resolutions	
7:20	Recognition of Guests	Jimmy Porter
	Recognition of Missionaries & New Workers	Bill Causey
7:35	Memorial Service	Louis Smith
7:45	Partnership Missions	Bill Hardy
8:00	Congregational Praise	Graham Smith
8:05	Choral Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen
8:10	Mississippi Baptist Convention Emphasis	Bill Causey
8:45	Benediction	Eugene Dobbs

#### Wednesday morning, Session 4

8:30	Prelude	Blue Mountain College Choir
8:35	Sounding of the Gavel	Martin Hayden
8:40	Choral Praise	Blue Mountain College Choir
8:50	Congregational Praise	Dani Jones
	Hear the Word of the Lord	Rebecca Williams
	Prayer	Mary Andero
9:00	Bible Treasure: The Example of Sending	Stephen Olford
9:25	Recognition of the Ministry of Healing	Jimmy Porter
9:40	Report of Christian Education Commission	Jim Phillips
9:45	Choral Praise	Blue Mountain College Choir
9:50	Introduction of College Presidents	Jimmy Porter
	Report from Blue Mountain College	Harold Fisher
9:55	Business Session	
	Adoption of 1998 Budget	Bobby Kirk
	Report of Committee on Nominations	P.J. Scott
	Resolutions Committee Report	
	Miscellaneous Business	
10:40	Congregational Praise	Dani Jones
10:45	Following Christ in Retirement	Alton Forrester
10:50	Choral Praise	Blue Mountain College Choir
11:05	Message	Chuck Kelley
11:35	Benediction Chorus	Dani Jones



# First, Louisville Brotherhood stays on move

By John Clendinning  
First Church, Louisville

The Brotherhood of First Church, Louisville, has said, "You will be my seriously when Christ's commands are obeyed in the ends of the earth."

In June, the Brotherhood of Richard Ford carried out the organization of a Backyard Bible Study in one of the mission fields in Louisville, what started out to be a group of children ended up being a work for the Lord.

June 23 looked to be a rainy Monday, but by evening the rain had cleared and a small number of children showed up to see what was going on.

The Brotherhood, using the Baptist Sunday School Board's "Anytime/Anywhere" curriculum, sang songs, made crafts, served refreshments, and shared Jesus with 15 children.

There was some apprehension since there were more men than there were children in attendance. The second night they expected to have around 25, but were even doubtful of that number when rain clouds once again rolled in.

"I got there to the site about an hour ahead of time and spent most of that time sweeping water off of the concrete, but the

rain held off and we were just trusting that God would work, despite the circumstances. We really saw God do something great against great odds," said Ford, who also serves as the Associational Brotherhood Director for Winston County.

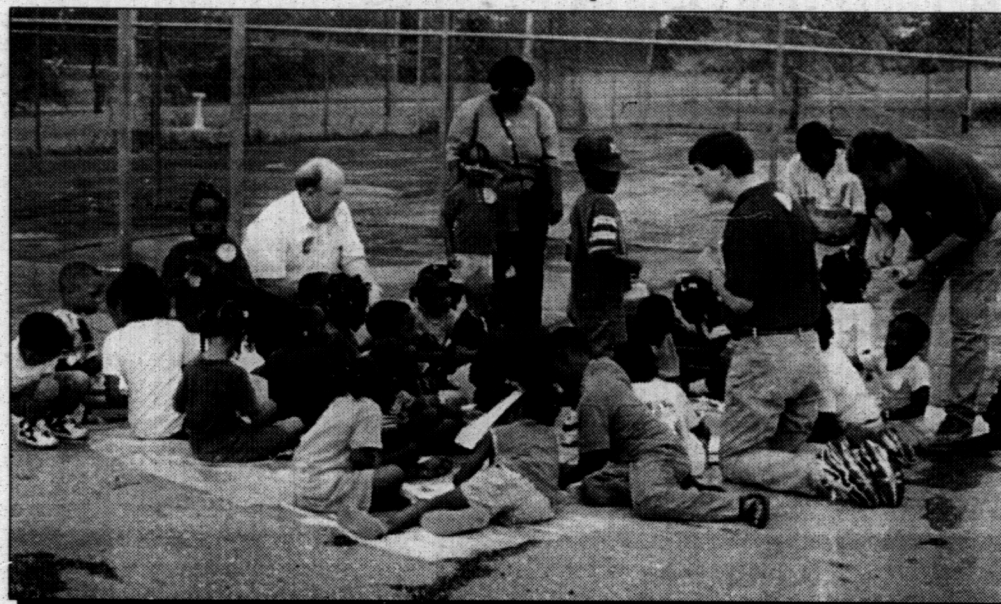
By Tuesday evening, the men saw 51 children in attendance and the rains never threatened again. The children were encouraged to bring their friends and neighbors.

By Wednesday evening there were 68 children in attendance. That closing night the plan of salvation was shared, and the leaders asked for a commitment from the children.

About half of those in attendance raised their hands to accept Christ as Savior. After the Bible Club, the men spent time counseling the children, and then their names as well as the names of other prospects were shared with local churches in the community.

In addition to local mission work, First Church has also been involved in mission work at the Baptist Children's Village in Jackson as they completed repair work on some of the buildings and helped in the construction of new units.

Last fall they traveled to New Orleans to work on the Rachel Sims Mission. In addition to these projects, the Brotherhood is also involved in gathering financial support for these ministries. This year will mark the third year that they will promote "Christmas in October," a fund raising effort for the Rachel Sims Mission.



The men of the church have also been involved with a yearly construction mission trip, this year to Indiana. Pastor Chuck Pourciau is a key leader in gathering volunteers and equipment for this annual trip.

First Church is also involved in trips overseas, medical missions, local and state missions, as well as praying and supporting Southern Baptist Convention work through the Cooperative Program.

Through God's strength and guidance, the Brotherhood of First Church is on mission for Christ!

**ALL FOR CHRIST** — Members of the Brotherhood at First Church, Louisville, conduct a Backyard Bible Study in a local neighborhood. Approximately 34 children made professions of faith during the bible study. (BR special photo)

## Statistics released for 'See You at the Pole' Mississippi sites

<b>ADAMS COUNTY</b>		<b>GRENADA COUNTY</b>		Purvis Attendance Center	81	East Marion	58	Pearl High	239
Adams County Christian	129	Grenada High	137	Purvis High	81	Jefferson Middle	82	Pearl Jr. High	175
Trinity Episcopal	39	Grenada Middle	175	Purvis Middle	43	Jones Jr. College	176	University Christian	75
Natchez Middle	15			Sumrall High	145	West Marion	85	Brandon Jr. High	350
<b>ALCORN COUNTY</b>		<b>HANCOCK COUNTY</b>		<b>LAUDERDALE COUNTY</b>		<b>MONROE COUNTY</b>		<b>SCOTT COUNTY</b>	
Alcorn County Vo Tech	65	Bay High	200	Meridian Community College	27	Amory High	75	Forest High	64
Biggersville High	25	<b>HINDS COUNTY</b>		Meridian High	160	Amory Middle	212	Morton	175
Corinth High	88	Central Hinds Academy	75	North East Middle	64				
Corinth Jr. High	60	Clinton Jr. High	200	Northeast High	85	<b>NEWTON COUNTY</b>		<b>SIMPSON COUNTY</b>	
Kossuth High	96	Forest Hill High	60	Magnolia Middle	17	Newton County Academy	108	Magee High	90
Alcorn Central	100	Hillcrest Christian Academy	300	Kate Griffin Jr. High	6	Newton County High	130	Magee Middle	105
		Hillcrest Elementary	500	Southeast High	90	Newton High	41	Simpson Academy	50
<b>ATTALA COUNTY</b>		Jackson Academy	50	Southeast Jr. High	430	Newton Middle	44	Simpson Central	200
Kosciusko High	175	Madison Ridgland Academy	25	West Lauderdale	290			Mendenhall Jr. High	18
Kosciusko Jr. High	170	Rebel Academy	180	<b>LEAKE COUNTY</b>		<b>OKTIBBEHA COUNTY</b>		<b>SMITH COUNTY</b>	
<b>CHOCTOW COUNTY</b>		Woodland Hills Academy	62	Carthage High	45	Sturgis Attendance Center	73	Mize High	102
Ackerman Elementary	250	Clinton High	150	Leake Academy	48	Armstrong Middle	30		
Ackerman High	150	Sumner Hill Jr. High	80	Carthage Jr. High	120	MSU	25	<b>TIPPAH COUNTY</b>	
Weir Courthouse (Adults)	14	Tri County Academy	72			Starkville Academy	175	Ripley High	151
Weir High	33	<b>HOLMES COUNTY</b>		<b>LEE COUNTY</b>		Starkville High	100	Faulkner High	40
<b>CHOAHOH COUNTY</b>		Cruger Tchula Academy	80	Lee Middle	85	<b>PEARL RIVER COUNTY</b>		<b>UNION COUNTY</b>	
Clarksdale High	135	East Holmes Academy	85	Mooreville High	170	Hancock High	75	East Union	75
<b>COPIAH COUNTY</b>		<b>JACKSON COUNTY</b>		Tupelo High	375	Pearl River Central High	70	Ingomar	100
Copiah Academy	38	Pascagoula High	120	Tupelo Middle	225	Pearl River Central Middle	125	Myrtle	75
Crystal Springs High	9	Ocean Springs High	76	<b>LEFLORE COUNTY</b>		Picayune High	100	W. P. Daniel High	85
Crystal Springs Middle	70	Ocean Springs Middle	40	Pillow Academy	18	Union Baptist Academy	130	New Albany Middle	82
Union Academy	250	Trent Lott Jr. High	70	<b>LINCOLN COUNTY</b>		<b>PIKE COUNTY</b>		West Union	80
Wesson Attendance Center	70	Calmer Jr. High	110	Brookhaven Academy	150	McComb High	100	<b>WALTHAL COUNTY</b>	
Hazlehurst High	32	<b>JASPER COUNTY</b>		Brookhaven High	115	McComb Jr. High	75	Center of town pole (adults)	45
<b>COVINGTON COUNTY</b>		Stringer Attendance Center	320	Lloyd Star	120	North Pike	100	Tylertown High	75
Collins Middle School	125	<b>JONES COUNTY</b>		Alexander Jr. High	75	Parklane Academy	200	<b>WASHINGTON COUNTY</b>	
Seminary Elementary	120	Myrick Elementary	20	<b>LOWNDES COUNTY</b>		Southwest Community College	30	Deer Creek Academy	24
<b>DESOTA COUNTY</b>		Northeast Jones	115	Columbus High	72	<b>PONTOTOC COUNTY</b>		Greenville High	53
Hernando High	185	Shady Grove	100	Emmanuel Christian	30	North Pontotoc	150	Greenville Christian	30
Northwest Jr. High	25	South Jones High	300	Heritage Academy	125	Pontotoc High	110	Riverside	3
Olive Branch High	350	West Jones	260	MSMS/MUW	111	Pontotoc Jr. High	17	Central Delta Academy	55
Olive Branch Middle	350	Calhoun Elementary	175	New Hope High	150	South Pontotoc	50	<b>WINSTON COUNTY</b>	
<b>FOREST COUNTY</b>		<b>KEMPER COUNTY</b>		New Hope Middle	325	<b>PRENTISS COUNTY</b>		Nanah Waiya	85
USM	30	E. Miss. Community College	125	Caladonia High	135	Hill's Chapel Jr. High	100	<b>YALOBUSHA COUNTY</b>	
Petal High	200	<b>LAFAYETTE COUNTY</b>		Victory Christian	80	Marietta Jr. High	72	Water Valley	94
North Forest High	120	Lafayette High	150	Warden/Carden	155	New Sight High	154		
Presbyterian Christian	45	Oxford Middle	75	<b>MADISON COUNTY</b>		Booneville High & Middle	81		
William Carey College	35	Oxford High	60	Madison Central	150	Kirk Academy	80		
Hattiesburg High	125	<b>LAMAR COUNTY</b>		Old Town Middle	150	Rankin Academy	168		
<b>GEORGE COUNTY</b>		Oak Grove High	100	Rosa Scott	225	East Rankin Academy	75		
George County High	200	Kings Academy	70	<b>MARION COUNTY</b>		Pelahatchie Attendance Center	47		
		Lamar Academy	70	Columbia Academy	130	Richland High	95		
				Columbia High	130	Richland Middle	110		
						Brandon High	225		

**179 Schools**  
**20,491 participants**  
**45 Counties**

Source: MBCB Evangelism Dept.



# Day of Prayer focuses on the persecuted



**Shatter the Silence**

November 16, 1997

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The plague of Christian persecution affects more than 200 million people, with an additional 400 million believers facing discrimination and legal impediments, writes Paul Marshall in his 1997 book, "Their Blood Cries Out."

Despite the intensity of suffering in 60 countries, with many believers paying the ultimate price for their faith — persecution to the point of death — Christians in America have not heard the cry of their persecuted brethren around the world, according to Marshall; the thought of physical sacrifice for the faith is foreign to most in the church in America.

"The vast body of Christians in the United States, along with their major organizations, have indeed abdicated their responsibility to deal with the persecution of Christians," writes Marshall, senior fellow in political theory at the Institute of Christian Studies in Toronto.

While various groups and individuals have stepped to the foreground in this global struggle, Marshall notes "the overall record of the church is abysmal."

"Despite a plethora of TV programs, radio stations, and magazines, despite the presence of the tens of thousands of workers overseas involved in

missions, education, and relief and development, despite networks of contacts worldwide and a vast array of internetted agencies, the situation of Christians is passed by silently," he writes. Marshall insists the churches' ignorance of the issue has been fed by the silence on the part of secular institutions.

"If we turn to secular news outlets, to academics, to policy analysts, to international relations scholars, to political

activists in search of news about the persecution of Christians, we encounter a deafening silence," he writes.

A secular myopia trivializes the role of religion in the world, Marshall suggests.

"When I see something like this, my heart aches because the believers here don't even know about it, don't care," Chuck Colson said on the Sept. 16 Focus on the Family radio program. "We're not expressing moral out-

rage; we're not indignant of the indifference of the United States government towards this."

The 19th annual Day of Prayer International Day Church is a the Persecuted "shatter the silence," said Steve Haas, the coordinator of the global effort.

This year's season of understanding, prayer, and action began Sept. 28 and continues in a day of prayer to be marked Nov. 16 in 115 countries.

## Disney critic Drake faces no jail time on conviction

FULLERTON, Calif. (ABP) — California pastor Wiley Drake, whose resolution to boycott Disney Corp. was overwhelmingly passed by



**Drake**

messengers to the 1997 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, was sentenced to 1,500 hours of community service Sept. 19 on four misdemeanor building-code violations for housing homeless people at his First Southern Baptist Church in Buena Park, Calif.

Drake was convicted July 28 by a jury in Orange County (Calif.) Municipal Court and sentenced Sept. 19 by Judge Gregg Prickett, who also presided at the trial.

Drake's sentence called for community service but no jail time or fines.

Prickett then gave the 53-year-old preacher credit for all 1,500 hours, reasoning that Drake already had done the community service through his church activities — including caring for the homeless.

"The very court that allowed a jury to judge my activity as wrong told me I had already served my 1,500 hours [partly through that activity]," Drake told Associated Baptist Press after the sentencing.

Drake's church operates Here's Hope Social Ministry Center, giving food to poor neighbors and letting up to 75 people a night sleep inside a makeshift church shelter or in parked campers.

It's that makeshift quality of Drake's homeless work that got him in trouble.

Drake also is known for his failed resolution last year at the Southern Baptist Convention calling for a Disney boycott, although a similar one passed at this year's convention in Dallas.

Though Drake walked out of court free and clear, his First Southern Baptist Church was put on three years probation.

It was convicted alongside Drake of four separate counts of the same building violations. Church officials will be back in court Nov. 14 for a progress report on building improvements and getting the campers out of the church parking lot.

## Breast Cancer: Know the Facts

Breast Cancer is one of the leading causes of death among American women, claiming approximately 50,000 lives each year. More than 180,000 cases are diagnosed annually, and in some cases, it even strikes men. Women are especially at risk if they are over 50; have other family members with breast cancer; have never had children; or were over 30 when their first child was born. However, the number one risk for breast cancer is simply being a woman.

Despite the grim statistics, there is good news: nine out of 10 women could survive breast cancer if it is found and treated early. Experts agree that the best way to fight breast cancer is through early detection.

During October, Baptist is joining other healthcare providers across the nation to educate women in our communities about the risks and treatments for breast cancer. Since early detection is a woman's best protection, women should follow these guidelines:

- Examine your breasts monthly. Ninety percent of breast lumps are found by women themselves. Baptist and other healthcare providers can help you learn how to perform regular self-examination.
- If you are 20-40 years of age, have a physician or other healthcare professional examine your breasts every three years. After age 40, have a clinical breast exam every year.
- Have a baseline mammogram between the ages of 35-39.
- Starting at age 40, you should have a yearly mammogram or as directed by your physician. An increasing number of health plans now cover routine mammograms.
- If you find a lump during a self-exam, or you notice other changes in your breasts, see your doctor or healthcare professional immediately. Remember, the key to surviving breast cancer is early detection and treatment.

For more information about breast cancer, or to attend a breast self-examination class or schedule a screening mammogram, please call the number listed below.

## Understanding the Benefits of Breast Cancer Awareness

Call 1-800-948-6262 for more information.

**Baptist**  
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## THANKS, SUE

Editor:

Truly great youth ministers are few and far between. They possess a love for teenagers, the ability to relate, and a hang-in-there attitude that keeps them seeing the end results when others are throwing in the towel and moving on to other things.

Mississippi has been blessed with a number of adults through the years who have poured their hearts and souls into a ministry to teenagers.

One of the best ever is Sue McAllister, minister to students at Harrisburg Church in Tupelo.

Many of us owe Sue Mac a depth of gratitude for the leadership, vision, and example that she has exhibited through the years.

Untold numbers of teenagers have directly and indirectly been touched by her passion to see teenagers growing in their Christian faith.

Now after 24 years Sue McAllister is giving up the title though she will never quit being a youth minister.

Thank you, Sue, for being a constant friend and may God continue to bless and use you in your service to him.  
Don L. Clinton

## KUDOS FOR BOYCOTT

Editor:

I grew up in Centerville, and was very active in the Centerville Church. I still attend there whenever I'm home.

I was disappointed by the cynical guest opinion Aug. 7, regarding the Disney boycott.

He ridiculously suggested the SBC set out to financially ruin Disney because the management didn't fall to their knees in prayer or conform to Southern Baptists' mores! Baptists' values and moral beliefs aren't unique, but of Biblical basis. His statement of the SBC's decision, "...all this in the precious name of Jesus, of course" is irreverent!

## Huey Perry sets retirement from NAMB chaplain post

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP) — Huey Perry, chaplaincy manager for the North American Mission Board, will retire Oct. 15. Perry first came to the Home Mission Board in 1977 to lead the agency's institutional chaplaincy program. In 1986, he was elected director of the chaplaincy division.

Perry will be the assistant director of chaplaincy services for Allied Holdings in Decatur, Ga., the nation's largest transporter of new automobiles. Allied has one of the oldest business-industrial chaplaincy programs in the United States. He will be responsible for

He accused "a few" Southern Baptists of being responsible for the boycott and for casting all members in a role of being devoid of love and intolerant of others' right to be wrong.

Should we have tolerance to the degree we compromise Biblical truths? Why are churches compromising on moral issues?

In our society today, truth is becoming relative. Whatever the individual believes is truth. We as Christians must affirm what's Biblical, absolute, right, and wrong!

We can't mold Christianity to what fits us or society. We aren't perfect, but are responsible for teaching God's word even when it convicts!

Jesus extends unconditional love to the sinner but rebukes sin. We should follow that example and stand firm on what's right and wrong!

I commend the SBC for their decision! If you disagree, don't participate!

They have taken a pro-family stand against a corporation that has compromised wholesome values for what sells in Hollywood!

Kathy Hughes Davin  
West Chester, Ohio

## DON'T BE ASHAMED

Editor:

In the August 7, 1997, issue of The Baptist Record, R.K. Houston wrote an article which was published in The Baptist Record in which he denounced, as dramatically as an attorney would in his closing argument, the resolution of the last Southern Baptist Convention to have another annual boycott of Disney World.

From his "scoffers seat" Houston raged, "Inasmuch as Disney management would not fall on their knees in prayer the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) had a duty to beat them into that position through financial ruin—all in the precious name of Jesus, of course."

Houston suggests that

Disney offers Christian parents more wholesome entertainment for their children than they could find and accused Southern Baptists of being callous where Disney was caring in providing medical insurance for homosexual live-ins and for giving homosexuals their own day in the "world."

Southern Baptists do not attempt to rid the world of sin (or) feel uncaring of sinners.

The Hebrews did not mock David when he bounced a rock off the head of Goliath because that rock did not kill all of the giants in the giant tribe with which the Hebrews were confronted.

They knew God only could bring victory or defeat to his followers and they praised him for being willing to fight on God's side.

Remember, Baptists, when good men keep silent; evil men will prevail.

We do not need to be ashamed of our resolution to boycott Disney World, or of our "mores" as Houston suggests.

Ellen Goldman  
Marks

## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Editor:

Frequent reports of yet another perceived theophany sends millions around the world searching for spiritual reassurance.

Belief in life after death is socially acceptable because a prominent person recounts a previous life.

Astrologers outnumber astronomers in a confusing culture of philosophies and cults whose devotees worship a departed celebrity or a self-appointed messiah.

Money buys healing via the airways. Illusory Christ

images appear in the product of the manufacture of wood veneer, no more than the imagined figures in wind-driven clouds.

The incomprehensible is termed a miracle, and we all yearn to be touched by an angel.

To question these latter day phenomena does not minimize God's providential care.

In his omniscience, he warned us that all that is spiritual is not of God. (Deut. 18:9-22, I Tim. 4:13)

A miracle is the temporary suspension of a natural law in favor of a superior divine law: The parting of the Red Sea was temporary.

The storm obeyed the Lord's command, but storms are a daily occurrence of nature.

Lazarus responded to the Lord's voice, but Lazarus died again.

The resurrection of Jesus was far greater than a miracle, it was the ultimate manifestation of his omnipotence.

We must search the Scripture for knowledge of what is false and what was transitory otherwise we become even more vulnerable to shallow emotionalism, heresies, and false religions. (Matt. 6:23, Hosea 4:6)

Allene Goodman  
Caledonia.

## AGREES WITH EDITORIALS

Editor:

I received both the September 18 and 25 editions of The Baptist Record today.

I want to commend you for the two editorials on Disney and Ole Miss.

I agree with both, and I just wanted to thank you for your comments.

Ladye Casey  
Memphis, Tenn.

## HOMECOMINGS

**North Calvary, Philadelphia:** Oct. 12; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship 10:45 a.m.; lunch following morning service; Jimmy Porter, McComb, speaker; Darwin Porter, Axis, Ala., music; Chris Aldridge, pastor.

**First, Itta Bena (Leflore):** "Night of Praise," Saturday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m. Andy Cummings, Columbus, guest singer; Homecoming, Oct. 12, 10:30 a.m.; Doyle Cummings, Eupora, guest speaker; covered dish dinner on the grounds, noon; Higdon Herrington, pastor.

**McAdams (Attala):** Oct. 12; worship, 10 a.m.; noon meal in fellowship hall; 1:30 p.m. singing; Joe Blackwell, Tylertown, speaker; James Young, pastor.

**First, Lucedale:** Oct. 19; 95th Anniversary; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish dinner on the grounds, noon; 1 p.m. singing; Johnny Walker, Winona, speak-

er; R.L. and Beth Sigrest, music; John Turner, pastor.

**Valley Grove, Pontotoc:** Oct. 12; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish lunch, 12:30 p.m.; afternoon singing, 2 p.m.; Billy Ray Nelson, speaker; John Shackelford, pastor.

**Calvary, Braxton:** Oct. 12; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish lunch; Vance Dyess, evangelist; Jimmie Wood, pastor.

**Mt. Vernon, Newton:** Oct. 19; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner following morning services; Gospel singing, 1:30 p.m. featuring The Disciple Quartet, Roger Estes, Heather and Ashley Beeland, Sherry Riggie; Lamar Williams, guest speaker; Steve Pouncey, pastor.

**Carey Chapel, Red Banks:** Oct. 19; Bible Study, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch on the grounds, 12:15 p.m.; afternoon



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unsigned letters will not be printed. No multi-copy or form letters will be used.

Each correspondent must include an address and telephone number for verification. In special instances, name may be withheld at writer's request and editor's discretion.

Please include the name of cooperating Mississippi Baptist church where correspondent is a member. (Mississippi Baptists' letters will receive priority when space is limited.)

Letters must be limited to 250 words. All correspondence is subject to editing.

Correspondents should refrain from personal attacks. The opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

No more than one letter from any individual will be printed during a three-month period.

When in the judgement of the editor a given issue has received sufficient attention, correspondence dealing with it will no longer be published and a notice will be printed to that effect.

singing, 1:30 p.m.; Jack Gregory, pastor, speaker; The Bumpus Family and The Carey Chapel Men, music.

**Sandersville (Jones):** Oct. 26; 11 a.m.; covered dish; afternoon singing, special recognition service, and note burning ceremony; Donald Tisdale, Wills Point, Texas, evangelist; James Herrington, Teague, Texas, music; Donnie V. Parker, pastor.

**Holly Springs (Marion):** Oct. 12; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner in fellowship hall noon to 1:30 p.m.; guest speaker, Rickey Gray, Flowood, former pastor; song service, 1:30 p.m. with Pearl River CC BSU singers.

**Mt. Pleasant (Smith):** Oct. 12; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch in fellowship hall; 1:30 p.m. service; Lavelle Smith, former pastor, speaker; Latrelle Crumpton, music; Carey E. Bass, pastor.



## The Road to Everlasting Life



God intends for all his children to live with him forever, but the road to everlasting life is blocked. To find that road you must:

### Admit that you are a sinner.

*There is none righteous, not even one. (Rom. 3:10)*

### Accept God's love for you.

*God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom. 5:8)*

### Acknowledge Christ as Lord.

*If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. (Rom. 10:9)*

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Mississippi Baptist Church for spiritual guidance.

# NOBTS offers bivo music, education courses

A new cycle of New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS) courses for Mississippi bivocational music directors and education workers will be offered beginning Oct. 20 at several locations around the state.

Each student who completes the eight-course music cycle earns a Church Music Certificate from NOBTS, plus eight hours credit toward an on-campus degree.

There is a one-time registra-

tion fee of \$25. The cost of each course is \$75.

"Project 25" is a cooperative effort of NOBTS, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Baptist Sunday School Board to grant \$100 for the registration fee and first course cost to the first 25 bivocational music directors who register.

The grants are available for both the music and education courses. Students already enrolled in the program are not

eligible, and the grant is limited to one person per church.

The second course in the music cycle, "Worship Planning," will be held at:

◆ First Church, Columbus. 7-9 p.m., beginning Oct. 21. Ed Nix, teacher.

◆ Broadmoor Church, Jackson. 7-9 p.m., beginning Oct. 20. Jimmy McCaleb, teacher.

◆ First Church, Purvis. 6:30-8:30 p.m., beginning Oct. 20. James Hayes, teacher.

◆ Liberty Church, Liberty. 6:30-8:30 p.m., beginning Oct. 21. Joe Elliott, teacher.

◆ First Church, Booneville. 7-9 p.m., beginning date to be announced. LuAnne Ford, teacher.

The bivocational education worker courses will be offered at Broadmoor Church, Jackson; First Church, Purvis; and Golden Triangle Association in Columbus. Each student who completes the eight-course education cycle will receive a Christian Education Certificate from NOBTS.

Additional classes may be organized in other locations around the state where 10-12 students are interested in enrolling.

For more information, contact coordinator Chester Vaughn, 268 Northpointe Parkway, Jackson, MS 39211. Telephone: (601) 956-6285.

## REVIVAL DATES

**Emmanuel, Union:** Oct. 13-15; services, 7:00 p.m.; Tommy Anderson, Forest, evangelist; Mike McIlwain, Meridian, music; Ronny Spivey, pastor.

**Antioch, Florence:** Oct. 12-15; Sunday services, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:00 p.m.; Laverne Summerlin, Lake, evangelist; John Nix, Collins, music; Grant McElveen, pastor.

**West Drew, Drew:** Oct. 12-15; Sunday, 11:00 a.m., dinner in fellowship hall, and 6:00 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 6:45 p.m.; Ed James, Skene, evangelist; Maynard Hill, Isola, music; J.B. Ingram, pastor.

**New Prospect, Olive Branch:** Oct. 12-15; Sunday, 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. concert, and 6:00 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 6:45 p.m.; John Mahony, professor, Mid-American Seminary, evangelist; Ed and Bitsi Callahan, Arnold, music; Buddy Perstroppe, pastor.

**Thaxton area churches (Pontotoc):** Tent Revival, Oct.

12-16; services, 7:00 p.m. each night; Kenny Digby, evangelist; Billy Nelson, music; a nursery will be provided.

**Spring Creek, Philadelphia:** Oct. 12-16; services, 7:00 p.m. each night; Randy Bostick,

evangelist; Wayne King, pastor.

**First, Sledge:** Oct. 12-17; Sunday, 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:00 p.m.; Harvey Sewell, Dumas, evangelist; Floyd Cooper, music and pastor.

## Central Hills 1997 summer staff



**First Row:** Robby Sullivan, Mendenhall; Dan Malon, Hattiesburg; Jon Nunley, Indianola; Corey Tutor, Tupelo; Bobby John Panni, Greenwood; Brian Parker, Morton; Patrick Alexander, Southaven; Todd Browning, New Albany. **Second Row:** Doreatha Love, West; Lavern Wade, West; Pearlle Veasley, Kosciusko; Brenda Hutchinson, Kosciusko; Janice Mayo, Kosciusko; Scott Wilson, Jackson; Peggy Wasson-Tyler, Kosciusko; Tollie Pinkard, Kosciusko. **Third Row:** Dan West, Kosciusko; Keven Newsome, Columbia; Josh Kleis, Boyle; Bobby McKay, Kosciusko; Jarrett Caraway, Kosciusko; Steve Scianna, Picayune; Avery Dixon, Liberty; Wyl Murray, Madison; Andy Wayne Chance, Silver Creek; Michael Winstead, Morton; Brian Brasher, Starkville; Mark Gibson, Jackson; Melba Neslon, Monticello; Euel Nelson, Monticello. **Fourth Row:** Keith Cline, Mendenhall; Jim Young, Philadelphia; Jason Robertson, Pontotoc; Jason Sims, Kosciusko; Sam Barnes, Mendenhall; Russell Pearce, Purvis; Justin Busby, Rienzi; Stan Pickering, Laurel; Travis Ward, Pickens; James Poison, Braxton; Chad Ray, Sturgis.

## STAFF CHANGES

**First Church of Fannin, Brandon,** has called **Leroy J. Brewer Jr.** as pastor. Brewer is a graduate of Trinity Seminary and New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was New Zion Church in Cophiah Association.



Brewer

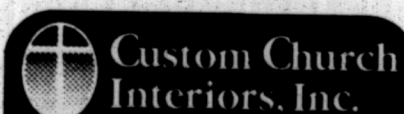
**New Hope, Leakesville,** has called **Brian Lee Pullin** of Hattiesburg as pastor effective Sept. 21. He is the son of Kenny and Debra Pullin of Pascagoula. Pullin will graduate William Carey College in May, 1998. Ordination services will be held at his home church, Ingalls Avenue, Pascagoula, on Oct. 12 at 6:30 p.m. Greg Hart, Fairhope, Ala., will conduct the service.

**Locust Street, McComb,** has called **Johnnie Place** as pastor

effective Sept. 14. Place is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village.

**Rudy James** has resigned as pastor of Thorn Hill Church (Rankin), effective Oct. 5. He can be contacted for supply at 111 Jess Dean Road, Brandon, MS 39042; phone, 829-1853.

**Hollandale, Hollandale,** has called **Joseph Bruce "Butch" Knight** as pastor effective Oct. 9. His previous place of service was Parkway, Kosciusko.



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**FULL-TIME YOUTH & CHILDREN'S** Minister Needed. Resumes to: Dr. Kermit Soileau, First Baptist Church, POB 643, Chipley, FL 32428.

**ACCEPTING RESUMES:** for Full-time Minister of Music & Sr. Adults. Send to: Liberty Baptist Church, Jack Cupit, Chariman, PO Box 73, Liberty, MS 39645.

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## JUST FOR THE RECORD



**Lamar Baptist Association** building was paid in full on Tues., Sept. 16. The loan was in the amount of \$81,515.38 and was paid off in 28 months. Pictured are the trustees; the building committee members; Jeanette Jager, treasurer; and Judy Thompson, Lamar Bank representative.

**Good Hope (Leake)** is having Harvest Day on Sun., Oct. 19. Sunday services include, Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; worship, 11:00 a.m.; lunch in fellowship hall. Paul Jordan, former pastor, will be the guest speaker. Jessie Napp is pastor.

**Grace, Philadelphia**, will honor **Dennis Duvall** on Oct. 12 at 11:00 a.m. during Clergy Appreciation Month. Duvall has been pastor for over 15 years.

**Griffith Memorial, Jackson**, will celebrate its 90th anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 19. Services begin at 9:15 followed by a 10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration in the sanctuary, a covered dish luncheon, and an

Afternoon Inspiration of music at 1:30 p.m. Special recognitions and the morning message will be delivered by Wilson Winstead, former pastor. For information, call (601) 372-7812. Bruce Cappleman is pastor.

**The Baptist Student Union at Jones Junior College** has awarded Josh Fortier of Laurel and Richard Bryant of Richton the Rev. Leroy Craven Scholarship. The scholarship is

given in memory of Leroy Craven and funded by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lindsey of Laurel. Pictured left to right are Mrs. Thomas Lindsey, Bryant, and Fortier.

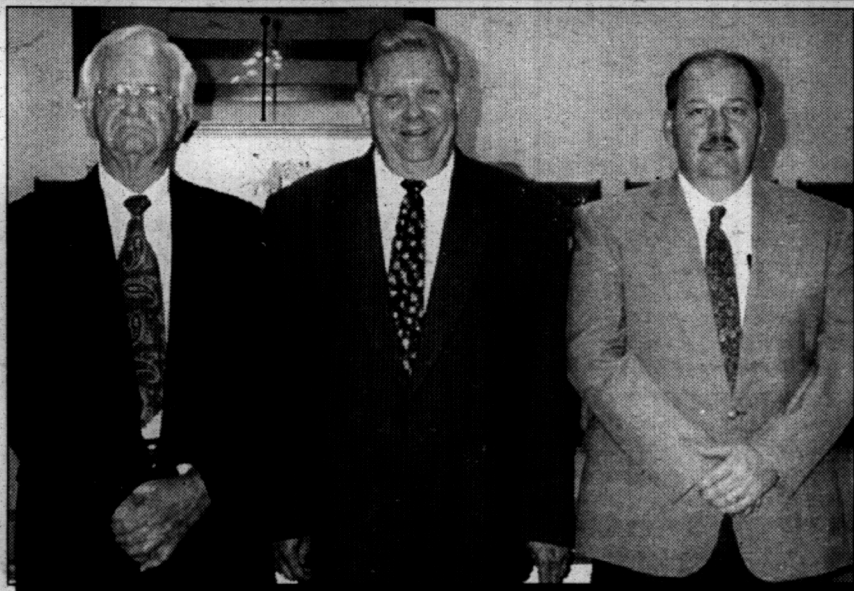


## NAMES IN THE NEWS

**Montrose (Jasper)**, ordained **Eddie Norvell**, **Thomas C. Smith**, and **James Ed Nix** as deacons. **Bill Hutto** is pastor.



**First Church, Lake Washington**, honored **Lilly Mae Daniels** (left) and **Willie Mae Shields** (right) on April 5 upon their retirement from teaching Sunday School for 50 years. Pictured with them is **Jimmy McLendon**, pastor.



**County Line, Union**, ordained **Dub Rainer** (left) and **Steve Hansford** (right) as deacons. Pictured with them is **Barron Pilgrim**, pastor.



**First Church, Runnelstown**, ordained **Bradley L. White** (left) and **Clayton B. Carver Jr.** (right) to the ministry on August 31. White is minister of music and Carver is youth and activities director. Pictured with them is **Henry Freeman**, pastor.

## BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS

**Mississippi College (MC) Homecoming Weekend** will be Friday and Saturday, Oct. 31 - Nov. 1. Friday's activities include the D.M. Nelson-Aubrey McLemore Golf Tournament at 1:00 p.m. at Shady Oaks Country Club in Jackson and a Follies program at 6:30 p.m. in Swor Auditorium of Nelson Hall. Saturday's activities begin with registration in Alumni Hall, followed by class reunions, service and social groups meet-

ings, the annual Homecoming Awards Luncheon, and the crowning of Homecoming Queen and the presentation of her court during the halftime of the football game between the MC Chocs and Howard Payne University. Kickoff is set for 6:00 p.m. at Robinson-Hale Stadium. For additional information call (601) 925-3208.

**Mississippi College** is offering a business teleconference scheduled for Wed., Nov. 12, 9 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., hosted by the School of Business and the Office of Continuing Education. The teleconference will be held at the Mississippi ETV Auditorium at 3825 Ridgewood Road in Jackson. The speakers

include internationally renowned authors, Lester Thurow, John Naisbitt, Faith Popcorn, Don Tapscott, and Don Peppers. Tickets are \$199.00 for participants registering early, and \$249.00 for regular tickets. For additional information, call Jessie Murphree in the Office of Continuing Education at (601) 925-3263.

**The William Carey College Theatre** will present a drama, "The Traveling Lady" by Horton Foote, Oct. 9-11 at 8:00 p.m. in the O.L. Quave Theatre on Carey's Hattiesburg campus. The production is student-designed, with set by James Mitchell, costumes by Justin Bunton, and lighting by Jon Watts. All three students are theatre majors under the supervision of Shannon Robert, faculty designer. The director is O.L. Quave, production stage manager is Jennifer Azulay, and rehearsal assistant is Kate Wheat. Tickets may be reserved by calling (601) 582-6221. Regular admission is \$6, while student cost is \$3.

## Clear Branch sets 100th anniversary

**Clear Branch, Florence (Rankin)**: 100th Anniversary Homecoming, Oct. 12; worship 11 a.m.; David Jay, former pastor, guest speaker; dinner on grounds, noon; singing, 1:30 p.m. featuring Mt. Zion and Clear Branch quartets; Tim McCaffrey, pastor.

### EMPLOYMENT

**Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries** has the following openings for employment:

◆ Houseparent couple for **Arkansas Baptist Home for Children**  
Call Royce Aston at 870-367-5358

◆ Houseparent couple for **Camden Emergency Shelter for Children**  
Call Frank Martin at 870-862-0095

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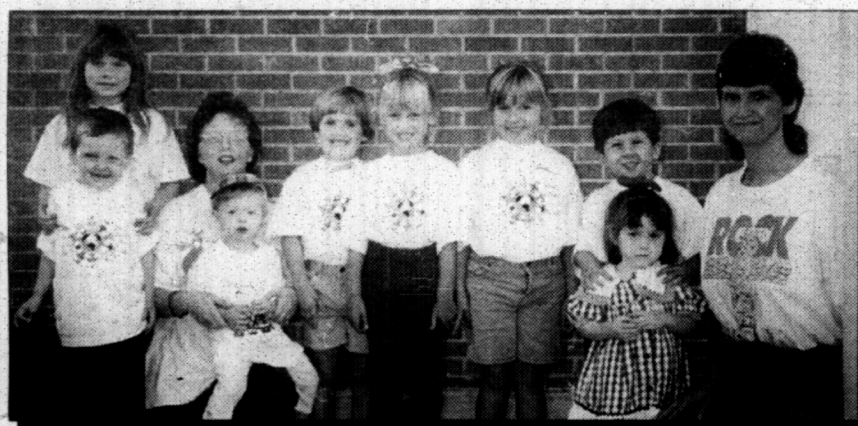
## Bethlehem, Forkville reaches 150

Bethlehem Church, Forkville, Scott Association, will celebrate its 150th anniversary on Oct. 12. Worship services will begin at 10 a.m. A covered dish luncheon will follow the services. Johnny Beaver, pastor, will bring the main message for the day. Also, a history of the church that has been printed will be for sale.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD



**Strong Hope, Wesson**, held a recognition service for Acteens, GAs, and Mission Friends on Sept. 7. Pictured are (back row, left to right), Penny Martin, director; Heather Morgan, Queen with Scepter; Seprina Warren, Beth Ryan, Queens; Allison Page, Queen with Scepter; Trish Ryan, Queen Regent; Cassie Smith, Queen with Scepter; (front row from left) Kaitlyn Savage, Katie McGee, John Ryan, Dylan Berch, crown bearers.



**Strong Hope Mission Friends**: Pictured from left are Corrie Bates; John Ryan; Karen Middleton, director; Jessa Martin; Georgia Bowlin; Jessica Jackson; Rebekkah McLeod; Dylan Berch; Megan Berch; Pam Moore, director.



**Strong Hope GAs**: Pictured left to right are (first row) Kristina Bates; Kellie Ryan; Lauren Broulliet; LeeAnn McLeod; Ashlee Mullins; (second row) Karla Broulliet; Linda Elkins, director; Crystal Ryan; Mandy Elkins; Amanda Jackson; Sue Bowlin, director; (third row) Maggie Morgan; Hayley Roberts.

**First Church, Olive Branch**, recently licensed three men to pastoral ministries; George Ross, Chad Montgomery, and Bobby McGraw. P. J. Scott is pastor.

**Chris and Diane Machen** will be in concert at **Broadmoor Church, Jackson**, on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 6:00 p.m. A love offering will be received. For more information, call (601) 362-0305.



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If you have any questions  
please call 1 800 626-5525, ext. 4143.



## 1998 WINTER BIBLE STUDY PREVIEW CLINIC

*Selected Parables from Luke*



Frank Pollard



Ann Cannon

**DATE:** Tues., October 14, First Baptist Church, Jackson,  
Fellowship Hall West  
**TIME:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
**TEACHERS:** Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, MS  
author of  
"Timely Answers to Key Questions"  
Ann Cannon, author,  
"Inquiring Minds"  
**LUNCH:** Complimentary of MBCB Sunday School Department  
\*Baptist Book Store will be available on site\*

**NO RESERVATION OR REGISTRATION FEE REQUIRED**

For more information, contact Larry Salter or Mark Lott, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Sunday School Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205; phone (800) 748-1651 or (601) 968-3800.



## FAMILY BIBLE SERIES

### Stand by faith

Daniel 3

By Wayne VanHorn

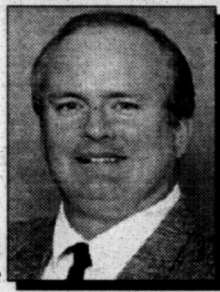
Today's lesson is based on one of the Bible's most familiar stories, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace. Usually, more emphasis is placed on their deliverance from the furnace than upon what got them in the furnace in the first place. They were placed in the furnace because of their unwillingness to break faith with the one true God. Death was better than compromise!

**Powerful Pressure (3:14).** Nebuchadnezzar, the most powerful man in the world, confronted Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (1:7; 3:14), three Hebrew

servants. The king had erected a gold image that was ninety feet high and 9 feet wide.

He had commanded everyone to bow down and to worship the image (3:5). To do so, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego would have had to violate the second commandment (Exodus 20:4-5). Their refusal resulted in a confrontation with the angry king. He offered them another chance (3:15).

**Purposeful Pledge (3:16-18).** The three Hebrew servants did not even pause to consider the matter. They knew that worshipping an image of gold was a sin before God. They responded



VanHorn

to the king's threat of a fiery death by stating their confidence in God. "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king" (3:17). But what if God decided not to deliver them? The three men knew it was better to die a horrific death than to live in sin. They refused to compromise their faith to appease the king's fury.

**Potent Punishment (3:19-23).** The furnace was heated seven times normal. This could be literally true or figuratively true. Either way the furnace was hotter than it needed to be. So hot in fact that the valiant warriors of Nebuchadnezzar's army who bound the Hebrew slaves were killed as they approached the furnace (3:22). The three Hebrews fell bound

in the fire. Often God's children are caused to suffer at the hands of ungodly people.

**Persuasive Phenomenon (3:24-25).** Apparently,

Nebuchadnezzar had a "front row" seat in view of the entrance of the furnace so he could personally witness the death of the three defiant Hebrews. Instead, to his utter astonishment, the men arose and danced about unhindered in the flames. Additionally, the king witnessed a fourth man in the furnace with them whom he described as "a son of the gods" (NASB) or "the son of God" (KJV). Either translation is possible. Keeping in mind that Nebuchadnezzar was a polytheist (believed in many gods) and that he referred to the fourth man as an angel (3:28), "a son of the gods" is probably the better translation. The main point is that God delivered his obedient children

from the wrath of a pagan king.

As in the case of last week's lesson, once again we see that compromising one's faith is never the right thing to do. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to compromise their faith in the matter of dietary laws. The result was that they looked better than the others (1:15). Now these three friends of Daniel refused to compromise their faith by bowing down and worshipping the golden image. The result was that God delivered them and blessed them through the once furious king (3:30). Often Christians are tempted to compromise their faith to avoid unpleasant circumstances. This lesson illustrates how God can bring blessings out of trials and override negative circumstances to exalt the people who exalt him.

VanHorn is pastor, First Church, Columbia.

## LIFE AND WORK

### Be overcomers

2 Corinthians 4:1, 7-18

By Geneva England

Hidden treasures exist in various forms such as the Dead Sea Scrolls discovered in jars of clay. Even greater is the treasure of God's grace entrusted to our earthen bodies through belief in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our sins.

**Determined (4:1).** When Paul said, "Therefore, seeing we have this ministry," he referred to the new covenant gospel based on God's mercy and grace. At the Last Supper Jesus said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood" (Luke 22:20). This new covenant—also called the new testament (2 Cor. 3:7-18) differs from the old covenant in several ways: it is born of the spirit; it offers life

through Christ; it imputes righteousness; and it offers freedom from the law.

Paul pledged to deliver this message despite any obstacles. His determination spanned two continents and lasted for three strenuous missionary journeys. Paul found strength for his weakening body, knowing that his message was from God.

**Empowered (4:7-12).** Paul used the word but to contrast the marvelous power of God as compared with man's "jars of clay." Numerous times God rescued Paul from perils in order for him to preach God's message. His miraculous delivery from the Philippian jail is just one example of God's



England

omnipotence. When the Philippian jailer was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped, Paul assured him of their presence. Then the jailer asked one of the most important questions any sinner can ask: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul shared

God's "treasure" with the jailer: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved... (Acts 16:30-31). As a result the jailer and his family were saved. Yes, God entrusts his salvation message to frail humans in order to display his "all-encompassing power."

**Confidence (4:13-15).** What kept Paul from sinking due to all his suffering? His faith in Christ (v. 13) and his hope of the resurrection (v. 14). Paul readily disclaimed any competence in himself, giving God all the credit. This is also true of confidence. Believer's confidence comes from faith, by

believing in the one and only risen Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, and knowing assuredly that someday he will raise our bodies incorruptible to abide eternally in his presence. Our belief in the security of the believer is a hallmark of Baptist belief. We thank and praise God, resting our hope in "once saved, always saved." Therein lies confidence, and it all comes from God and for the glory of God. All Christians can share in this confidence, especially when they maintain a solid walk with Christ.

Paul said that as long as we are in our present bodies, we "groan, being burdened," but our confidence lies in the fact that as soon as we leave this body we will be at home with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:4,6).

**Renewed (4:16-18).** Through salvation, we overcome spiritual death; therefore, we must not lose heart nor become downcast. We are to be happy and joyful as joint heirs with the Lord. Our heavenly abode is

being prepared at this moment by Christ himself. We believe this because Jesus comforted his troubled disciples by telling them about his "Father's house of many mansions" where he is preparing a future place for his children, and he will return for us (John 14:1-3). Though our corruptible bodies will ret to the dust from which God formed us, our incorruptible bodies will be raised to live eternally with him. "Therefore," as Paul confidently repeated five times (See 2 Cor. 4:13,16; 5:6,17), we should be encouraged to carry God's greatest treasure—the salvation message.

When we feel burdened, we should read Matthew 6:25-35, which deals with worrying excessively. The Father feeds the birds that do not sow; he adorns the lilies that do not toil. Will he not care for us even better? YES! We through Christ shall overcome!

England is a member of First Church, Grenada.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### Pride and selfish

Genesis 11:1-9

By Jason Bird

Pride and selfish ambition form the root of man's sin against God. To this point in the Genesis narrative, humanity tried to live independent of God's control and authority. The story of the tower of Babel gives another example of man trying to live apart from his Creator.

**Building A City To Reach Heaven (11:1-4).** Chapter eleven begins by describing a world in which everyone had one language. This seems to contradict chapter ten which states that the nations were already divided by languages. It is possible that the writer

intended to use the words of chapter ten to explain the division of nations on the basis of geography, and then later explained the division on the basis of theology. In other words, chapter eleven explains how and why the divisions seen in chapter ten came to be.

The people on the plain of Shinar were full of pride. Their sin was not in building a great architectural wonder, but in their reason for building. God had commanded man to go into all the earth and fill it (9:1). Instead, humanity wanted to stay in one place and make a name for itself. Their actions proclaimed God's irrelevance



Bird

and their self-sufficiency. The tower in Babel would be a great expression of the pride they had in themselves.

These people do not differ much from many in society today. Many of the advances of modern technology can lead man to think he doesn't need God. But, as the

people of Babel learned, it is futile to try to live apart from God's leadership and authority.

**God's Displeasure (11:5-6).** God is not a remote being, detached and unconcerned about the events of this earth. Verse five reminds us he is aware, not only of the actions of men, but of their thoughts as well. This building project displeased God for several reasons.

First, the motive behind the building was wrong. As already stated, the people were building this tower to make a

name for themselves, not to honor God. Even churches today must guard against this temptation. We must examine our motives whenever an endeavor is undertaken to make sure it glorifies God and not a group of people.

The building of the tower also displeased God because of the future potential for evil. If such pride was already evident in the hearts of men, they would not remain content with merely building a tower. If left to their own desires, these people would try to build a life and society completely independent of God.

**God's Judgement (11:7-9).** The people considered unity their greatest strength, so God passed judgement at the point of their pride. Instead of remaining unified, God scattered the people over the earth and gave them different languages so they could not even

communicate with one another. God's actions taught a strong lesson to the people of Babel and to every generation thereafter: God will not be mocked. Adam and Eve, Cain and his descendants, the people of Noah's generation, and the people on the plain of Shinar all disobeyed God and paid the price for their disobedience.

This account ends somewhat differently from the stories preceding it in Genesis; this story does not end on a high note. God gives no coat of provision, no mark of grace, no ark for the righteous. Instead, this story sets the stage for the ultimate hope. Out of one of the nations would come a blessing for the entire world. This story gives the background of the development of God's special people; his plan to redeem the world through Jesus.

Bird is pastor, 15th Avenue Church, Meridian.



# Missionary parents share childrens' joy, pain

By Carl M. White  
Associate Editor

A group of grandparents collectively laugh and cry as they watch a video tape of missionaries Jim and Penni Tilton and their preschool children, Nathan and Joshua.

It is not unusual for a proud grandparent to show friends snapshots of a new grandchild, but at this gathering they share videos and a lot more.

These are the Mississippi parents of missionaries, gathered at Camp Garaywa in Clinton to share news and prayer concerns about their adult children serving around the world through the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

Irene Brown of Bogue Chitto stands before the group to report news and show video footage of her daughter and son-in-law, the Tiltons, who are serving in a restricted area of Central Asia that cannot be named.

Some IMB personnel like the Tiltons serve in areas that are so sensitive to the presence of Christian missionaries that their location cannot be publicly stated.

On the video, children on tricycles wearing home-made hats form a parade while Penni Tilton plays the piano and Jim Tilton waves a cardboard American flag.

They are celebrating the Fourth of July, a special holiday in a country these preschoolers have yet to know. They are MKs — missionary kids.

"Sing 'Happy Birthday America,'" Jim prompts one of the children before the camera. With the innocence only a child's voice can deliver, the words slur from little Nathan's mouth.

Two months after this event, Nathan's grandparents share the home video with other missionary parents who join in expressing the warm laughter a child's voice evokes, and also warm tears that come from a separation known by everyone in the room.

The Mississippi Missionary Parents Fellowship (MMPF) was organized in the fall of 1995 by Darlene Breland, a missionary parent, and Ashley McCaleb, who at the time was a consultant with the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

The group was the first such organization of its kind in the SBC, according to Bill Sellers, current president. Bill and Jeanette Sellers' daughter, Alicia, is married to Larry Braswell, and their family serves in Brazil. The Braswells have three children.

Larry Braswell's mother, Glenda Braswell of Boyle, is also a member of the MMPF.

"Last spring, a mission couple staying in First, Brandon's missionary house attended one of the meetings," Sellers said. "They brought their parents who went back to Arkansas and this fall organized a parent's fellowship there."

Sellers indicated that IMB is interested in seeing other missionary parent fellowships started across the SBC.

MMPF has a constitution and bylaws, and meets each spring and fall. The next meeting is April 24-25, 1998, at Camp Garaywa.

One by one, parents share their children's work around the world. Each has a display table of items from the mission field. Victories are celebrated and prayer concerns are voiced.

Around the room, people fill notebooks with prayer requests. These Baptists know better than most the importance of prayer for missionaries.

George Taylor of Hattiesburg requests prayer for his daughter, Martha Meda Taylor, who serves in a restricted part of the world that cannot be named.

She has a herniated disk, and George and Mary Taylor are praying that she be healed.

He also shares a victory. The government would not allow Martha to give out Bibles, but they agreed to allow her to show the "Jesus" film and pass out transcripts of the film, which is the Gospel of Luke. Many have been saved, Taylor reports.

Jimmy and Earlene Walker's children, Beth and Al Bailey, are in Guatemala. They will soon be moving to a new work, which means moving their three children, ages 11, 10, and two. The Walkers request prayer for a safe move.

Rene Sugg and husband R.P. of Jackson show photos of her son Rob, daughter-in-law Nan, and three grandchildren: Robert III, Harriet Lehnoff, and Carroll.

Rene Sugg asked the other parents to pray for Rob, who as mission administrator is busy working with other missionaries and local pastors drawing up a new mission strategy as part of the IBM's revitalization. "Pray for God's wisdom," she says.

"Drew has a food allergy," Judy Duncan says about her grandson, Drew Lance Williams, age 4. Drew's parents, Matthew and Shea Williams, serve in Indonesia. She rejoices that a maid was found who could prepare foods without using milk for Drew.

A video from the Williams shows a room full of children — 36 to be exact — at a birthday party for Melody Lynn Williams, who turned two.

On the tape there is a close-up of Drew and Melody. Drew says, "I love you." Melody echoes, "I wuv you."

The room is filled with "Ooos," "Ahaas," laughter



Rene and R.P. Sugg

and tears. Though separated by thousands of miles, there is nothing like hearing the love of grandchildren. Missionary parents know the joy and the pain of the call to missions.

Part of the pain is the separation. The joy is in the victories for God's kingdom in which

their children share around the world.

For more information about the MMPF contact Edna Ellison, Mississippi WMU, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800, or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.



Judy Duncan

## Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx  
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TEVCOWHH, XAEX

HMWEC JW SO BSKAX:

EOT PAEX JW AWEV SO

XAW WEV, XAEX MVWEIA

JW DMRO XAW ARD-

HWXRMH:

UEXXAWP XWO:

XPWOXJ-HWZWO

Clue: C equals K

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Acts Five Twenty-five.



Ron Mumbower, Ph.D.  
Minister of Counseling  
First Church, Jackson

## LifeAnswers

*My daughter is married to a man whose 10-year-old daughter is making their new marriage miserable. How can my daughter stop this from happening?*

The child is likely angry or even scared with regard to her family situation. She has undergone some traumatic changes in her life, and children often express such anxieties by creating difficult situations. Your daughter should give her new stepdaughter time and space; children shouldn't rule the household but your daughter needs to be patient while the child adjusts to an unfamiliar situation. Your daughter can be positive, spend quality time with her, listen intently, and show consistency in the application of family rules. It is important that the child's father be as involved in this process as your daughter. The child's need for security means that your daughter and her husband must show the child that she is very much loved and a valuable member of the family. As the new step-grandmother, you can play a role by being supportive of your daughter's marriage and allowing both your daughter and the child to talk with you about their feel-

ings. Help everyone involved to come out a winner when this phase becomes history.

*I am concerned about what my 13-year-old is learning on the Internet. Any suggestions before I unplug the computer?*

This situation presents an opportunity to teach your son how to act responsibly in an irresponsible world. First, spend some time getting educated on the use of the Internet. You can ask your son how it works — an ideal way to open a dialogue with him about his use of the computer. Talk with him about the importance of practicing a Christ-centered life, even when you're not around and no one else is watching (which is usually the case when young people are on the Internet). It's up to you as his parent to provide a role model — and the discipline, when necessary — that he needs to develop strong moral values in our sick culture (Prov. 22:15). Software is also available that will allow some control over the Internet material that comes into your home. Discuss the software options with a computer-savvy friend or the owner of your local computer store.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.